

**CLAIMS**

1. A plant for carrying out batch rectification in a rectifying column (1) or for carrying out a chemical reaction in a batch reactor (35) surmounted by a rectifying column (1), the rectifying column (1) being designed for  
5 operation under total reflux and comprising at least one column section (5; 6; 7; 8) for material transfer, at least one product vessel (3; 4; 35) below the column section (5; 6; 7; 8) for collecting and temporarily storing the liquid which has flowed downwards through the column section (5; 6; 7; 8) and at  
10 least one other product vessel (2) for collecting and temporarily storing the head product (2'), characterized in that an arrangement (27, 28; 30-34) is provided for selectively guiding the liquid into the product vessel (3; 4; 35) located below the column section (5; 6; 7; 8) or past that product vessel.
2. A plant as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the column  
15 section (5; 6; 7; 8) comprises at least one built-in packing and/or at least one built-in plate.
3. A plant as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the product  
vessel (4) below the column section (5; 6; 7; 8) is a bottom vessel or a  
batch reactor (35) and in that a collector (30) is arranged between the  
20 lowermost column section (8) and the bottom vessel (4) or the batch reactor (35) and is connected at its outlet to an auxiliary vessel (34) and to the bottom vessel (4) or to the batch reactor (35) and in that the arrangement for selectively guiding the liquid comprises a first valve assembly (32, 33).
4. A plant as claimed in the preceding claim, characterized in that the  
25 collector (30) is connected via the first valve assembly (32, 33) on the one hand to the auxiliary vessel (34) and, on the other hand, to the bottom vessel (4) or to the batch reactor (35).
5. A plant as claimed in any of claims 2 to 4, characterized in that the  
liquid flowing downwards in the middle column section (5,6) can be guided  
30 via a second valve assembly (28, 29) into a second product vessel (3), of

which the outlet is connected to the lower column section (7), or into a bypass pipe (27) leading around the second product vessel (3).

6. A plant as claimed in any of the preceding claims, characterized in that the product vessel (2) for the head product (2') is connected to the  
5 head of the column via a feed pipe, more especially with a condenser (18), and a reflux pipe (9).

7. A process for carrying out a rectification and/or a reaction in the plant claimed in any of the preceding claims, characterized in that the process is initially carried out under total reflux and the liquid is guided for  
10 temporary storage into the product vessels (2; 3; 4; 35) and then past the product vessels (2; 3; 4; 35) and the product vessels (2; 3; 4; 5) are emptied.